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Case	Number
Definiteness	Gender
Verbs conjugate according to...	
Voice	Mood
Person	Number
Tense	Aspect



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Phonology

Consonants

Consonant phonemes								
	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
Nasals	m			n		ŋ		
Stops	p b		t d			k g		
Affricates				θ ð	tʃ dʒ			
Fricatives		f v		s z	ʃ ʒ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	h ɦ
Approximant				l	j	(w)		

Vowels

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i i:		u u:
Mid	e:		

Open		a a:	
			

Vandalic native words distinguish between four primary vowels: /a e i u/. Vowel length is not phonemic; vowels are long in open syllables and short in checked, with the exception of /e/. The language is syllable-timed rather than stress-timed. One diphthong exists, /au/. Note that the vowel /e/ is always pronounced long, as if it were a diphthong; it represents proto-Vandalic /ai/.

'O' does not exist in native words; when borrowed, it is usually realized as /u/.

The sound /w/ has an uncertain status as a phoneme in Vandalic. It typically appears in the combination /gw/: *guira* /gwi.ɜa/ "war"; *aguantu* /a.gwan.tu/ "stamina, vitality".

Alphabet

Qi biθu si parul a mutul - "Loose lips sink ships."

Letter	Sound	Letter	Sound
A a	[a], [a:]	B b	[b]
C c	[k]	D d	[d]
E e	[e:]	F f	[f]
G g	[g]	H h	[ʔ]
Θ θ	[θ], [ð]	I i	[i], [i:]
J j	[dʒ]	K k	[k]
L l	[l]	M m	[m]
N n	[n], [ŋ]	(O o)	see text
P p	[p]	Q q	[k]
R r	[ʁ]	S s	[s], [z]
T t	[t]	U u	[u], [u:]
V v	[v]	(W w)	see text
X x	[ʃ]	Y y	[j]
Z z	[z]	(8 8)	see text

Characters

The spelling of Vandalic is strongly phonemic and regular. Vandalic uses the Latin alphabet plus Θ, *θita*:

A B C D E F G H Θ I J K L M N (O) P Q R S T U V (W) X Y Z (8)

The phonetic values of these characters do not strongly vary. A number of digraphs are used in the spelling as well.

- **A**
 - Always /a/ or /a:/, depending on the syllable. The phonetic value of *a* hovers somewhere between /a/ and /æ/.
- **B**
 - Always /b/
- **C**
 - Realized as /k/, or /t͡ʃ/ before *i* or *e*. Vandalic redundantly uses three characters for /k/ sounds. Before *a*, K is always written for /k/. Before *u*,

v, or i, Q is written for /k/. Before consonants and word-finally, C is written for /k/.

- **D**

- Always /d/

- **E**

- Always /e:/. This sound cannot appear in an unstressed syllable and always represents a long vowel even in a checked syllable.

- **F**

- Always /f/. In early texts, this sound is written with the character *ƒ*, which is no longer in current use. When *ƒ* is used for /f/ the character F has the value /v/: archaic *ƒafa*, current *fava* "bean".

- **G**

- Always /g/

- **H**

- Always /ʔ/.

- **Θ**

- As /θ/ or /ð/. These sounds are in complementary distribution. /θ/ appears word-initially or word-finally. /ð/ appears between two vowels. When the character is part of a consonant cluster, it will be voiceless if the stops in the cluster are voiceless, and voiced if they are not.

- **I**

- As /i/ or /i:/.

- **J**

- Always /dʒ/. Uncommon.

- **K**

- Always /k/. Written before *a*; see note on C, above. Note also that the written distinction between the usage of *k*, *q*, and *c* gives rise to regular spelling variation in some adjectives with different forms for masculine and feminine gender: *biluqu*, *biluka*, "narrow", but *biluc a θumini* "the narrows of the river".

- **L**

- Always /l/.

- **M**

- Always /m/.

- **N**

- Always /n/.

- **O**

- Not used in native words. When it appears, as U.

The letter *o* was formerly written, and is still written by a few elderly people, in words considered taboo or ill-omened: *tabotu* (current *tabutu*) "coffin"; *motiz* (current *mutiz*), "to die". This usage is obsolete, and never affected the pronunciation. Model alphabets and fonts made for Vandalic often include 8, but never include O. Before the late eighteenth century, the character O was also found in many personal names, especially for families originating outside the Vandalic speaking area. During that period these were universally respelled with U, no matter how old or prestigious they were. Note also that in Vandalic speaking areas the number zero is always written Ø, with a slash. The figure of an otherwise unornamented circle is associated with *matxasma* (< Gk. μάτιασμα) or *enara* (< Punic **OYNHRO**), the evil eye.

• P

- Always /p/.

• Q

- As /k/. Written before *u*, *v*, and *i*. See note on C, above.

• R

- The R-sound of Vandalic is uvular /ʁ/ as in French or Danish. The trill /r/ exists for some speakers but is considered nonstandard.

• S

- As /s/, or /z/ between two vowels. /s/ between two vowels is written ss.

• T

- As /t/.

• U

- As a vowel, /u/ or /u:/. Sometimes realized as /w/ when occurring between a consonant and another vowel.

• V

- As /v/

• W

- Not used in native words. As /v/.

• X

- Always /ʃ/.

• Y

- Always /j/. Exclusively a consonant.

• Z

- As /z/, except in verb infinitives, where it is realized as /ʒ/, or /z/ if the consonant preceding the infinitive ending is x, zz, or j.

Digraphs

- AU

- Always /au/
- **CH**
 - Always /x/
- **GH**
 - Always /ɣ/
- **SS**
 - Always /s/
- **TX**
 - Always /tʃ/
- **ZZ**
 - Always /ʒ/

Historical phonology

It was noted early on in the late Roman Empire that the Latin of North Africa was strongly innovating. Augustine of Hippo observed that his Latin speaking contemporaries in Africa paid no heed to the shortness or length of Latin vowels.^[1] Graffiti from the period contain broad departures from classical orthographical norms; in several inscriptions the form *oze* appears for Latin *hodie*.

The number of contrasting vowels in Vandalic has been sharply reduced.

As with most other Romance languages, Vandalic is open to influences and borrowings from Latin itself (such words are called *qultranus*), which will nevertheless be conformed to Vandalic's own phonology and derivational processes: *lungituθ* "longitude".

The closest relatives of Vandalic, historically speaking, are the **Shax** dialects to the westward in Mauretania. Like Vandalic, Shax appears to have substantially reordered the inherited vowel system of Vulgar Latin. On the other hand, the cultural connections of the Vandalic speakers have generally been with Italy, Sicily, and Sardinia. Western Vandalic dialects have a number of innovating (loss of the *-m* marker of the indefinite state) and conservative features (e.g., some Western Vandalic speakers still draw a distinction between *assi* /a.si/ "enough" and *âssi* /a.si/ "bone".)

Vowels

The Vandalic vowel system resembles the Sicilian vowel system, with one significant difference. Common Western Romance reduced the ten vowels of classical Latin /ā – â, ē – ĕ, ĭ – ī, ō – ō, ū – ū/ to seven /a ɛ e i ɔ o u/. Sicilian merges /e – i/ to /i/, preserving /ɛ/ as *e*, and merges /o – u/ to /u/, preserving /ɔ/ as *o*. Proto-Vandalic took this a step further; the seven vowels of Western Romance were at one point reduced to three in Proto-Vandalic:

- Western Romance /a, ɔ/ > Proto-Vandalic */a/ HABET^[2] "he has" > *avi*; OSSE "bone" > *assi*
- Western Romance /ɛ, e, i/ > Proto-Vandalic */i/ VERUM > *viru*; CENA > *xina*;

VIRTUTEM > *virtuθ*

- Western Romance /o, u/ > Proto-Vandalic */u/ HODIE > *uzi*; MURUM > *muzzu*

These changes happened to all vowels. Unstressed vowels were reduced to /a, u, i/ earlier, so that most unstressed o will appear as u. Proto-Vandalic had two diphthongs, */ai/ and */au/. Current Vandalic e represents proto-Vandalic */ai/; but /au/ is preserved:

mema "seawater" < **maima* (Punic **MIIM**)

exa "wife" < **aiſa*; (Punic **AISHH**)

ame "I loved" < **amai* < AMAVI

but

AMAVIT > *AMAUT > *amau* "he, she, it loved".

Consonants

Sunu ixit a zzadibiyas sinzilas me ntinsas. Quvaθ isti bana, aguantu miθur.

While the inherited vowels of Vulgar Latin have been substantially reduced in the number of contrasts they display in Vandalic, the same cannot be said of the consonants. The Vandalic inventory of consonant phonemes has been substantially expanded. The results of the Vulgar Latin consonants are somewhat less regular than the vowel reduction due to a number of factors, including analogy, levelling, and borrowing from other Romance languages.

One aspect of the interplay between vowels and consonants should be noted at the outset. Proto-Vandalic, like most of the other Western Romance languages, at one time added an epenthetic weak vowel before certain groups, especially those derived from Latin words in ST-, SP-, SK-; SPATHA > Spanish *espada*, French *épée*, etc., but Vandalic *spaθa*. Vandalic at one time had these vowels as well. With some exceptions among shorter words (*istaz*, "stand") these are consistently lost. Less consistently but frequently, unstressed vowels at the head of a word are also lost: CABALLUM > **txivalu* > *xvalu*. This also affects Latin prefixing words in IN-, IM-, AD-, AL- regularly, and words in DE-, EX-, AD- less consistently. This results in a new consonant cluster in Vandalic, which are occasionally simplified, and which can alter the effect of regular phonological changes.

Stops

- **P**, standing alone at the syllable, or as part of most consonant clusters, is preserved. PISCEM "fish" > *pixi*; PRIMERE "press" > *primiz*.
 - Initial PL-, CL-, FL- but not BL- regularly become Vandalic θ-: PLUVIUM "rain" > *θuviu*; CLAMARE "call" > *θamaz*; FLOREM "flower" > *θuri*; but compare BLANCUM > *biyanqu* "white"; BLEMME > *blimi* "Caucasian, White European". In proto-Vandalic the /l/ quality of all of these sounds was lost, and they became palatized to */pj-, kj, fj-/ and /bj-/ . Medially this is less regular, and the outcome can be altered by prior nasals: AMPLIUM "plentiful, wide" > *amfiyu*. This change can also be averted by analogy. PLICARE "fold" > *fikaz* rather than ***θikaz* under the analogical influence of IMPLICARE "enfold" *mfikaz* /mfi.kaʒ/.
 - Between two vowels, P becomes *b*: LUPUM "wolf" > *lubu*.
- **T** has a strong tendency to palatize variously to x, or z in front of an unstressed historic E or I: NATIONEM "nation" > *nazun*; *PETTIA "fragment" > *pitxa*. This process is also spread by analogy, when consonant clusters would ordinarily prevent it: CANTIONEM > *kanxun*; -xun is the usual reflex for the suffix -TIONEM. When the /t/ occurs as a part of a consonant cluster, it is retained as /t/, even if the consonant cluster is simplified: DENS, DENTEM > *dinti*; NOCTEM "night" > *nutti*.
 - Between two vowels, T may become θ; TOTUM "whole" > *tuθu*.

Dissimilation and analogy can partially resist this change: ROTELLA "knee" > *ruditha*; here the /t/ gets stuck at the intermediate state of /d/ to avoid ***ruθitha*. Final -t tends to get dropped outside of monosyllables. In other positions, T is retained.

- **K (C)** palatizes, almost always to x, before historic E or I: CAELUM "sky" > *xilu*; CENA > *xina*. This is also the usual outcome of -ST- in the middle of words when followed by E or I: BESTIA > *bixia*.
 - Between two vowels, /k/ usually becomes *g*. CACARE "defecate" > *kagaz*. This new /g/ is potentially subject to further palatalization if followed by *i*; COQUINA > *CUCINA > *qughina*. In the groups -ACU-, -AGU-, -OCU-, -OGU-, -UGU- it is very frequently lost: FOCUM "fire, fireplace" > *fau*; LACUNA "gap" > *launa*.
 - Elsewhere, K/C is preserved as /k/.
 - Note also the treatment of initial CL-, noted under P above.
- **QU**: The /kʷ/ of words such as QUOD is always simplified to /k/: *ka*.
- **B** tends to remain unchanged from the original Vulgar Latin: BONUM > *banu*, BELLUM > *biθa*; LABORARE > *laburaz*. Between two vowels, it tends to become *v*: BIBERE "drink" > *biviz*. It may disappear between two vowels, similar to G below: FABULA "story" > **favula* > *faula*; PARABOLUM "word" > **paravulu* > *parulu*.
- **D** has a strong tendency to palatize to /z/ when it precedes historic I: HODIE "today" > *uzi* DIEM "day" > *ziya* (with gender regularization and vowel dissimilation). In front of historic E this process is far less regular.
 - Between vowels, it usually becomes *θ*, the same as /t/: CALIDUM "warm" > *kaliθu*.
- **G** shares much of its fate with C, above. Initially, before historic I or E it often appears as /ɣ/: GELUM "cold" > *ghilu*. Non-initially, before an unstressed historic /i/ or /j/ it is likely to become *zz*: HOMAGIUM "homage" ? *umazzi*. As with C, it is liable to be dropped when it appears by itself between *a* and *u*: FAGUM "beech tree" > *faua* (with gender clarification).
 - In some words, most notably from MAGNUS and MAGIS, original /g/ became **/j/*: so MAGNUM "big" > **/majnu/* > *menu* and MAGIS "more" > **/majs/* > *mes*.

Aspirate

- **H** is dropped, everywhere. HONOREM "honor" > *anuri*. The written character *h* represents /ʔ/, which sometimes arises due to vowels in hiatus, but more frequently appears in non-Romance or recent borrowings: *bahalu* /ba.ʔa.lu/ "husband, lord, mister"; *hutel* /ʔu.te:l/ "hotel".

Liquids

- **L** is preserved initially and word-finally, but LL almost universally becomes *θ*, as does the group -LI- when the vowel is unstressed. SOL "sun" > *sul*; ANIMAL > *animal*, LEPOREM "rabbit" > *lipuri*; HUMILITATEM > *umildaθ*; but FOLIUM > "leaf" > *faθu*, BELLUM "pretty" > *biθu*.
- **M** is preserved initially and usually preserved medially. Word-finally, it is lost except in monosyllables. In monosyllables, it often changes to *n* where it is syntactically significant, and an echo vowel follows it: SUM "I am" > *sunu*; CUM "with" > *qunu*.
- **N** is preserved initially and usually preserved medially, but has a tendency to be dropped medially when it appears before another consonant in a syllable coda. NUCEM "nut" > *nuxi*; REMANERE "remain" > *rimaniz*; but MANDUCARE "chew, eat" > *maθukaz*.

- **R** is preserved as a uvular consonant /ʁ/, which is liable to further changes and can become *zz* or *z*, especially between vowels. The -ARE, -ERE, -IRE of the Latin infinitive endings generally become /ʒ/, but on verbs this is written as -*az* or -*iz* rather than with *zz*. The shift from /ʁ/ to /ʒ/ is usual before *u*, and also affects the group -RS-; MURUM "wall" > *muzzu*, DORSUM "back" > *dazzu*. This change is never fully reliable. The /ʁ/ sound, however, is very infrequent word finally. In nouns of the three vowel declensions, the final vowel is regularly dropped when the noun appears as the possessed item in a genitive construction ("the wall of, the back of"). The change is therefore motivated by the possibility of regular loss of the final vowel. Final -*r* occurs in non-Romance vocabulary. In Latin derived lexical items it usually arises from the loss of a final vowel.

The sound may be lost before nasal sounds: DORMIRE > *dumiz*. The sound persists as /ʁ/ elsewhere: HARENA "sand" > *arina*; GARRIRE "talk" > *EXGARRARE > "betray" *sgaraz*; REGEM "king" > *rey*.

Fricatives

- **F** is usually preserved in all positions. It is very rare word-finally in Vulgar Latin, so that does not become an issue. FORNACE "furnace" > *furnax*; *NENUFAR "water lily" > *ninufazz*. Note also the treatment of FL-, discussed above.
- **S** is lost word-finally unless it has morphemic significance, as in the accusative plural. Medially it may become *z*, or be realized as /z/ in speech; the digraph *ss* is written to avoid that. SAGITTA "arrow" > *seta*; *ESSERE "to be" > *issiz*.
- **Z**, rare in Classical Latin, is retained as *z*.

Semivowels

- **J** (/j/, consonantal I in Classical Latin) initially typically becomes *zz* initially: IUSTITIA > *zzustiθ*. It typically blends with consonants surrounding it in non-initial position; ADJUVARE > *ajuvaz* "help". On occasion, words with initial vowels acquire a /j/ sound, possibly through mis-division: AQUA > *yaua* "water". Note also EQUUS > *yivu* "stallion", and EQUA > *yiga* "mare".
- **V**, /w/ in Classical Latin, becomes /v/ in the Vulgar Latin and is usually preserved. VOTUM > *vuθu*. ADVENIRE "arrive" > *aveniz*. The /w/ quality of the QU is consistently lost: QUARE > *kazzi*. In some areas /w/ persisted longer than others. Since /w/ cannot appear word-initially in current Vandalic, these words acquired a vagrant /gw/ reproducing the environment where /w/ occurred most often: VINUM > *guinu* "wine". In some contexts the /w/ was later dropped: VIVERE > **guiviz* > *giviz* "to live".

Consonant and glide

- GI-, DI- before another vowel become *j* or *zz*: RADIUS > *raju* "spoke"; DIABOLUM > *zzaulu* "devil".
- CI- TI- before another vowel become *x* or *tx*. ACTIONEM "action" > *atxun*,
- Initial CL- FL- PL- all become *θ* PLURES FLORES "more flowers" > *θuris θuris*
- LI- before another vowel becomes *θ*. PAPILIO "butterfly" > *papiθ* (with gender regularization)
- -TRE-, -TRI- often becomes *tx*: PATREM, MATREM "father, mother" > *patxu*, *matxa* (with gender regularization)

Consonant clusters

- -CT-, -PT- > *tt*: OCTO "eight" > *attu*; SEPTEM > *sitti* (combining form; also *xibθi* < Punic **ShBOTH**)
- -GN- > */ɲ/ > either *ny* or /ɲ/: compare REPUGNARE "repel" > *ripunyaz*; but occasionally MAGNA "large" > **mayna* > *mena*.
- -KS-, -X-, -PS- > *ss*: LAXARE "loosen" > *lassaz*

- -LL- > θ; *ALLARE "walk" > *aθaz*
- -NS- usually becomes z: MENSA "table" > *miza*
- -RS- > zz; DORSUM "back" > *dazzu*

Punic words

The treatment of Punic words is less predictable than the treatment of inherited Vulgar Latin words. The Punic script was a typical Semitic abjad; as such the vowels were not regularly written and varied according to tense, gender, and other grammatical functions. Just as with Romance words, etymological doublets exist; thus **AYShH**, borrowed twice with different vocalizations, underlies both *exa* "wife" and *ixiθ* "woman". The characters Alep (**A**), Yod (**I**), and Waw (**U**) were often used in Punic as *matres lectionis* to write *a*, *i*, *u*; they usually appear in these roles, but not predictably so. Ayin (**O**) usually becomes *a*, but is also liable to appear as *h*. Punic **AY**, **OY** will usually appear as *e*.

Generally, final Taw (**Th**) becomes θ; so can final He (**H**) if the word is feminine. In some feminine nouns, especially people words, final **H'** becomes *-a*. Het (**Ch**) becomes *ch*. Tet (**T**) becomes *t*, despite the fact that Tet is the original of θ and Taw the original of t. Shin (**Sh**) may become *x* or *s*, but Samek (**S**) becomes *s* regularly. Tzade (**Tz**) may become either *tx* or *ts*. Pe (**P**) usually appears as *p* but may become *f*, especially between vowels; likewise Bet (**B**) may become *b* or *v*. Both Kap (**K**) and Qop (**Q**) become /k/; this will be spelled according to the following vowel or consonant. Word final Resh (**R**) may become *r* or *zz*.

Nouns

Punic nouns that end in **Th** and sometimes **H** become fourth declension nouns, and are the original models of the Vandalic fourth declension.

- **BITh**, **BAITH** > *beθ* "house"
- **YRTh** > *eraθ* "fee, bill"
- **ChMTh** > *chamiθ* "castle, fort"
- **MTh**, **MUTH** > *maviθ* "death"
- **ThUPTh** > *tufiθ* "inferno, Hell"
- **PSGH** > *pisgaθ* "top"
- **ZUNH** > *zuniθ* "prostitute"

Words ending in consonants will either be taken in as fourth or fifth declension nouns, or they acquire a stem vowel and join the first, second, or third declension. The briefer the word is, the likelier it is to acquire a stem vowel:

- **OIR** "city" > *eru*
- **ShPT** > *sufiti* "judge, ad-hoc leader"
- **DR** > *daru* "ancestors, lineage"
- **BKR** > *biqizzu* "firstborn son"
- **BOL** > *bahalu* "husband"
- **AYShH** > *exa* "wife"
- **MRGL** > *margal* "weasel, mongoose".
- **ChMR** > *chamir* "tar, pitch"

Short words can be accepted as is:

- **RASh** > *rax* "head, start"
- **ShM** > *xim* "name".
- **AYSh** > *ix* "human being"

Adjectives

Adjectives may join any of the declensions, but generally only the ones that acquire theme vowels will become I-II adjectives, and only Punic roots ending in **Y** will become III adjectives:

- **RKY** > *raqiyu*, *raqiya* "thin"

- **UChD** > *uchid, uchid* "unique"
- **ChUY** > *chui, chui* "lively"
- **GDLH** > *gdul, gduliθ* "large"
- **QDSh** > *qudix, qudixa* "sacred"

Verbs

Verbs are usually assimilated into the first conjugation:

- **YLD** > *iludaz* "give birth"
- **BRK** > *birakaz* "bless"
- **HLK** > *halakaz* "be lost"
- **ABB** > *avivaz* "to sprout, to ripen"

Exceptions may occur if the Punic root ended in **-Y**. These will become conjugation IIb verbs:

- **KSY** > *qissiz* "to clothe."

Phonotactics

The stressed syllable in Vandalic is very regular:

- If a word contains a syllable with *e* or *au*; that syllable is the stressed one. Otherwise:
- If a word ends in a vowel, the stressed syllable is the next to last; and
- If a word ends in a consonant, the final syllable is stressed.

These rules do not affect the placement of the accented syllables in consonant declension nouns, which add a syllable in the plural *-is*. They **do** vary the accented syllables of conjugated verbs.

Lexical words, as opposed to particles, prepositions, and grammatical particles, must contain at least two syllables in Vandalic.

The maximal size of a syllable is (C)CCCVC: *nstruminti* /n̥stru.'min.ti/ "instrument". The first consonant in such a cluster must be a nasal. Vandalic tolerates a wide variety of consonant clusters in the syllable onset: *tfaraθ* /'tfa:.raθ/ "splendor", *θsauru* /θsau.ɐu/ "treasury", *gdul* /gdu:l/ "big", *sfira* /'sfi:.ɐa/ "ball".

Initial nasals are common in Vandalic: *mpuni* /m̥pu:.ni/ "untouched", *nfanti* /n̥fa.nti/ "infant". If a stop follows, the nasal will be co-articulated with the stop: *ndrazzu* /nd̥ɛa.ʒu:/ "self-reliance"; *mbaxaθu* /m̥ba.ʃa.ðu/ "message, messenger". Otherwise, they are lightly pronounced and syllabic. They are often silent unless the word preceeding them ends in a vowel itself.

Required separation of θ

The consonant *θ* is not allowed to appear twice in the same syllable, or twice in a row in the same word. This rule manifests itself mostly in verb conjugations and derivational processes: *qunfuθiz* "to confuse, befuddle" has the past participle *qunfutuθu* rather than ***qunfuθuθu*. It may appear twice if a different consonant intervenes: *θuliθ* "worm".

Other affricates tend to separate themselves as well, but no such separation is mandatory, and the phenomenon gives rise to no subirregular features like the separation of *θ* does.

Sandhi

Sandhi effects in Vandalic mostly affect vowels at word boundaries. Identical vowels tend to coalesce and one is dropped. Vowels in hiatus will be separated either by the insertion of *h* /ʔ/ or *y* /j/.

Morphology

	Gender	Cases	Numbers	Tenses	Persons	Moods	States
Verb	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Nouns	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Adjectives	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Numbers	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Participles	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Adverb	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Pronouns	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Adpositions	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Article	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Particle	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No

Nouns

The grammatical cases of Latin have generally been lost, as they have been in all the other Western Romance languages. On the other hand, it inflects nouns for number, possessed state, and indefinite state. Adjectives agree in gender and number with their nouns.

Vandalic nouns are either masculine or feminine. As in other Western romance languages, the masculine gender contains the Latin neuters as well as the masculine nouns. Most words borrowed into Vandalic become masculine.

Declensions

Vulu qi sim uzzu in u jibal.

Vandalic nouns have five declensions, each of which will be obvious from the citation form. They are:

The vowel declensions

- The **first declension**, with nouns ending in *-a*. These tend to be uniformly feminine. This continues the Latin first declension directly. Most fifth declension nouns also end up here.
- The **second declension**, with nouns ending in *-u*. These tend to be uniformly masculine. This continues the Latin second and fourth declensions.
- The **third declension**, with nouns ending in *-i* or *-e*. These may be of either gender. Nouns in *-e* exhibit a number of irregularities. Some Latin third declension nouns, the Latin *i*-stems, and many that have the same number of syllables in the nominative and oblique cases, end up in this declension. First and second declension Latin nouns in *-ius*, *-æum*, *-ia*, *-eus* and the like also have a chance of being pressed into this declension.

The consonant declensions

- The **fourth declension**, with nouns ending in *-θ*. These are all obligate feminines. Originally most fourth declension nouns are non-Romance. The class was swelled by many Latin derived feminine abstract nouns in *-tatem*, which generally become *-taθ*; and *-tutem*, *-tudinem*, both of which become *-tuθ*.

- The **fifth declension**, with nouns ending in a consonant other than *-θ*. These may be of either gender. This continues the Latin third declension nouns that dropped their final vowels.

Gender and number

Ya hidruvulanti mia 'sti θina diy' anguiθas.

The gender of most Vandalic nouns is apparent from their citation form.

Masculine nouns take the definite article *a*, or *al* if the noun begins with a vowel: *a xvalu* /a ʃva.lu/ "the horse"; *al ilu* /al i.lu/ "the god". If this article follows a vowel, it takes the form *ha* /ʔa/.

Feminine nouns take the definite article *ya*: *ya xvala* /ja ʃva.la/ "the mare"; *ya ilaθ* /ja i.laθ/ "the goddess". Before initial *a*- it elides to *y*.

All of the three vowel declensions take a plural in *-s*. In the two consonant declensions, the plural is almost always *-is*. The definite article in the plural is alternatively *a* or *u*: *a xvalus* "the horses", *u xvalas* "the mares", *u taliθis* "the girls" *a agafis* "the wings". Nouns in *-e* have plurals in *-as*: *a pile* "the cap" > *a pilas*.

Names of cities, countries, trees, and vehicles are feminine. Names of mountains and rivers are usually masculine unless obviously feminine in form.

The genitive construction (construct, possessed or governed state)

Ulam a supliz - "Go to Hell!"

The genitive inflection of Vandalic is essentially a possessed, rather than a possessive state. The marked form is the possessed noun rather than the possessor. Where Latin says *equus patri*, "the father's horse", Vandalic marks the horse rather than the father: *xval a patxu* (horse-POSSESSED the father), "the horse of the father". The possessor always takes a definite article in the construction, even if it is a personal name: *xval a Piθru* "Peter's horse". The possessed form typically does not take an article, but generally only takes an article if required by other syntax. The possessed state is usually a shortened or simplified form of the word.

This construction works like a noun case, but adjectives modifying the noun do not change form to match it. It translates many adjectives formed from nouns, and as such Vandalic is fairly poor in derived adjectives: *ulam ya viθa* "eternal life", literally "an eternity of life"; *tfarat ya ntinxun* "glorious purpose", literally "glory of purpose."

Rules for the formation of the possessed state form are as follows:

- In the first declension, drop the *-a*:

exa "wife" > *ex*: *ex a bahalu* /e.ʃ a ba.ʔa.lu/ "the husband's wife".

- In the second declension, drop the *-u*:

xvalu > *xval*: *xval a Piθru* /ʃval a pi.θɁu/ "Peter's horse".

Note also that nouns in *-iya* and *-iyu* drop the final *-ya*, *-yu*. These tend to be learned or academic words:

θiyuriya > *θiyuri ya ivuluxun* /θi.ju.'xi ja i.vu.lu.'ʃun/ "the theory of evolution"

miθiyu > *miθi ha zifris* /mi.'ði ʔa 'zi.fxis/ "the average of the numbers"

- In the third declension, drop *-i*. For the few nouns in *-e*, turn that to *-a*:

dinti > *dint*; *dint ya xvala* /dint ja ʃva.la/ "the mare's tooth".

pile > *pila*; *pila ya duzint* /pi.la ja du.zint/ "the professor's (f) cap"; *pila ha*

duzint /pi.la ʔa du.zint/ "the professor's (m) cap"

The loss of a syllable in the governed state of a noun in the vowel declensions does not result in a shift of the stressed syllable.

- In the fourth declension, change *-θ* to *-t*:

beθ "house" > *bet*; *bet ya exa* /be:t ja e:ja/ "the wife's house"

- In the fifth declension, no change:

sul "sun" > *sul a planiθi* /sul a pla.ni.θi/ "the planet's sun".

In complex noun phrases, the construct state is marked on the last noun or adjective of the phrase: *kaθi ya θus biluka* > *kaθi ya θus biluc a eru* "the narrowest street of the city". It is not a 'case', and nouns and adjectives do not need to 'agree' in constructness.

Note also that the construction can be used with infinitives as a verbal noun. The infinitive takes a definite article when used in this construction as well: *xval a yagaz* /ʃval a ja.gaʒ/ "a horse for hunting".

Indefiniteness and governed forms

Since the use of an article is required for the possessing form, indefiniteness must be noted differently if the possessing form is indefinite. This can be done in two ways.

The article can be changed to *la*, which marks the possessing noun as indefinite:

- *chamit a rey* - "the king's castle"
- *chamit la rey* - "a king's castle"

The possessing noun can, if a vowel stem, be cast into the indefinite state itself:

- *sul a planiθim* - "some planet's sun"

The two methods may be combined:

- *chamit l'adunum* - "the castle of some lord or another"

Emphatic and superlative nouns

The possessed plural form is also used as a sort of etymological figure to create emphatic or superlative nouns:

- *reyis a rey* "supreme king, king of kings"
- *kanxunis ya kanxun* "the greatest song, the song of songs"

Compare this to the use of the present participle as an emphatic etymological figure.

The indefinite state

Ziyam i uzi - "No time like the present!"

The indefinite construction affects the first, second, and third declensions of nouns. Vandalic allows three levels of definiteness. The first is definite, a noun appears with the definite articles *a*, *u* (m. sing, all plurals) or *ya* (f. sing). The definite article conveys less syntactical information than in some other Romance language.

The first level of indefiniteness is defined by the absence of the definite article. Since the definite article is required by syntax in some constructions, it is not always available.

The second level of indefiniteness is the inflected indefinite. In all of the vowel

stems, the first, second, and third declensions, it is inflected the same way: by adding *-m* to the vowel stem. It can appear with the definite article and keep indefinite meanings, and will appear with the article when required by syntax. The meaning of the suffix is somewhat stronger than an English definite, and is often best translated as "some kind of" or "a _____ of some sort or another".

- *(ya) ziyam* - "some day"
- *(a) xvalum* - "some kind of horse"
- *(ya) nuttim* - "one of these nights"

Plural potentiality is indicated by the suffix itself, and nouns so modified generally do not take plurals. One exception is *pirsunu*, "person", which distinguishes a singular *pirsunum* "someone or another" and *pirsunumis* "some people".

In narratives it is close to obligatory whenever a new character is introduced:

Si drinti natt a yemi vaghantim.... "If on a winter night a traveller...."

Diminutives and colloquial variants

Tu amanti 'sti andrunu. "Your boyfriend's a badass."

A variety of suffixes can be added to nouns to create diminutives and other colloquial variants. Some of the suffixes include:

- *-iθa*, *-iθu*

This is the diminutive suffix.

- *-atxa*, *atxu*

This is a pejorative suffix.

- *-una*, *-unu*

This suffix suggests that whatever the word describes is unusually large.

The suffixes change their form to match the gender of the original noun. Some of the words modified by the suffixes have been lexicalized: *auxiθu*, "bird", represents AVICELLUM from AVIS. Likewise *patxunu* "patron, benefactor" comes from *patxu* "father" + *-unu*.

Adjectives

Adjectives agree with the nouns they modify in gender and number, but not in "case"; adjectives do not take the inflections for the indefinite or the possessed states of the noun.

A group of nouns of different genders modified by a single adjective defaults to the masculine: *al ix i ya ixiθ raqiyus* "the thin man and woman".

Declensions

Adjectives must agree with the nouns they modify in gender and number. As a result, many adjectives are declined in multiple declensions. These are the patterns they exhibit:

- **I - II adjectives.** These adjectives use first declension forms for the feminine, and second declension for the masculine: *siqu*, *sika* "dry". Past participles decline under this category: *ligiθa*, *ligiθu* "tied"
- **III - III adjectives.** These adjectives appear invariant, because the same third declension form gets used for both genders: *livi*, *livi* "light". Present participles decline under this category: *maθukanti* "eating".
- **V - V adjectives.** These adjectives have fifth declension forms in both masculine and feminine: *reyal*, *reyal* "royal"; *uchid*, *uchid* "unique".

- **V - IV adjectives.** These adjectives have fifth declension forms in the masculine, and fourth declension forms in the feminine: *gdul*, *gduliθ* "big, strong".
- **V - I adjectives.** These adjectives have fifth declension forms in the masculine, and first declension forms in the feminine: *qudix*, *qudixa* "holy".

Comparison

Most adjectives compared by the comparative particle *θus*, and add the definite article (*y)a* *θus* to form the superlative: *kaliθu* "warm", *θus kaliθu* "warmer", *a θus kaliθu* "warmest".

Some common adjectives preserve analytic forms from Latin:

- *banu* "good"; *miθur* "better", *atimu* "best"
- *malu* "bad"; *piθur* "worst", *pissimu* "worst"
- *menu* "big"; *mijur* "bigger", *massimu* "biggest"
- *parvu* "small"; *pijur* "smaller"; but *a θus parvu* "smallest"

Adverbs

Just about any adjective can be turned into an adverb by adding the suffix *-minti* to the feminine singular form. The handful of fourth declension adjectives ending in *-θ* add an *a* to the end: *tuθa* > *tuθaminti* "totally"; *livi* > *liviminti* "lightly"; *gduliθ* > *gduliθaminti* "hugely".

Personal pronouns

	Nominative	Possessive (adjective)	Accusative	Emphatic
1p. sing.	iu	miu, mia	mi	me
1p. pl.	nu	nastru, nastra	nu	nuvi
2p. sing.	tu*	tu, tua	ti	tivi
2p. pl.	vaiz*	vastru, vastra	vaiz	vaiz
3p. sing.	θi (m), θa (f),	su, sa	θu (m), θa (f)	θui (m/f)
3p. pl.	iθi	su, sa	θus	θuru
Reflexive 3p. sing. pl.	--	su, sa	si	--

* Note that the usage of *tu* and *vaiz* in old fashioned or prescriptive Vandalic is governed by social status as well as number, and *vaiz* is the traditional form of address to strangers. *Tu* has gained ground at its expense, however. In very old fashioned Vandalic, *vaiz* also takes a third person plural verb; this is no longer generally observed.

Demonstratives

DEMONSTRATIVES	This	That	Yonder
M. sing.	issi	iθi	ixi
M. pl.	issus	iθus	ixus
F.sing.	issa	iθi, iθa	ixa
F. pl.	issas	iθas	ixas

All of these forms tend to lose their leading *i* when they follow a vowel.

Verbs

A qu sgara nuθa pitaθ

Regular verbs in Vandalic fall into two conjugations. The first conjugation continues the Latin first conjugation in -ARE. The second conjugation continues the Latin second and third conjugations in -ERE, -IRE. The second conjugation contains a subtype that differs only in the first person singular and third person plural: *sabiz* "know" has *sabiyu* rather than ***sabu*, and *sabiyun* rather than *sabin*.

Historic development

The phonological changes that took place between Vulgar Latin and Proto-Vandalic tended to flatten some of the distinctions in verb inflections. As such Vandalic does not preserve some of the distinctions that generally remain in other Romance languages. The perfect tense, which in the first conjugation regularly was formed with an -AV- suffix, merges with the imperfect tense formed with an -AB- suffix.

Personal endings have been strongly regularized. Irregularities, when they occur, tend to be confined to the present tense forms, as are most of the differences between the two surviving conjugations. Subirregular lexical variations may involve the formation of the preterit or the future stems. A generalized paradigm of personal endings would look something like:

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	-u (I, IIa), -iyu (IIb)	-as (I), -is (II)	-a (I), -i (II)	-amu (I), -imu (II)	-aθi (I), -iθi (II)	-an (I), -un (IIa), -iyun (IIb)
	Preterit	-e	-es	-au	-emu	-esθi	-irun
	Future	-are (I), -ire (II)	-aras, -iras	-ara, -ira	- aramu, -iramu	-araθi, -iraθi	-aran, -iran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	-im (I) -am (IIa) -iyam (IIb)	-is (I) -as (IIa) -iyas (IIb)	-i (I) -a (IIa) -iya (IIb)	-imu (I) -amu (IIa) -iyamu (IIb)	-iθi (I) -aθi (IIa) -iyaθi (IIb)	-in (I) -an (IIa) -iyan (IIb)
	Preterit	-erim	-eris	-eri	-irimu	-iriθi	-erin

Given the falling together of formerly distinctive vowels that defines the Vandalic sound system, the four conjugations of Latin were reduced to only two forms in Vandalic, with the first conjugation claiming verbs in -ARE and the second containing both types of verb in -ERE and the verbs in -IRE. The IIb verbs continue to distinguish verbs whose first person present was -EO and -IO as opposed to those that simply ended in -O.

The preterit endings, as noted, result from the merger of the Latin imperfect and perfect tenses. The first and third person singulars directly continue the Vulgar

perfect inflections in *-AI and *-AUT. The predicted outcome of the second person singular perfect Classical ending -ISTI is identical to the second person plural -ISTIS. so here the imperfect form in -s prevailed. The plurals uncomplicatedly continue the Latin perfect endings.

The future is in origin the familiar Vulgar Latin compound future tense of infinitive+HABEO. The -z of the Vandalic infinitive, which developed later, changes back to the familiar -r- here.

In the subjunctive, I and IIa verbs exchange their present tense endings; a subjunctive first conjugation verb looks very much like an indicative IIa verb. The IIb verbs insert a theme vowel and glide consistently.

The preterit subjunctive carries forth the Latin perfect subjunctive and is usually built upon the perfect stem. It continues the Vulgar truncation of the vowels in the perfect stem: AMAVERIM > **amairim* > *amerim*.

Unlike many other Western Romance language, Vandalic does not preserve the Latin pluperfect subjunctive with its characteristic -sse- infix. This would conflict with a frequently encountered derivational suffix for inceptive verbs (*viridissiz* "to turn green"). Nor did Vandalic develop a conditional mood from subjunctive versions of the HABEO future tense marker, and continues to use the subjunctive for this purpose, as Latin did and Sardinian still does.

Imperatives and non-finite forms

In addition to the personal conjugated forms, Vandalic verbs have an imperative, usually formed by dropping the -z from the infinitive: *ama* "love!" There is a plural imperative that adds -*θu* to the stem; this has a strong archaic air, and has jussive or desiderative overtones, and appears currently if at all only in legal or religious texts: *amaθu* "may ye love". This, however, is the only imperative of *issiz* "to be: *isθu* "may you be".

There is a present participle, in -*anti* for the first conjugation, and -*inti* in the second. This is a third declension adjective.

There is a past participle, often but not invariably in -*aθu* / -*aθa* in the first conjugation. In the second conjugation, -*iθu* is common, but forms in -*uθu* occur. In dental stems sometimes the vowel is elided and the ending is -*tu*. For the small number of verbs with stems ending in *Vθ-*, the participle is formed with -*adu*: *muθaz* 'to get wet, to moisten, to water' > *muθadu*, *muθada* "wet, moistened". All of these participles are first and second declension adjectives.

Regular verbs: first conjugation: *amaz* ("to love")

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	amu	amas	ama	amamu	amaθi	aman
	Preterit	ame	ames	amau	amemu	amesθi	amirun
	Future	amare	amaras	amara	amaramu	amaraθi	amaran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	amim	amis	ami	amimu	amiθi	amirin
	Preterit	amerim	ameris	ameri	amirimu	amiriθi	amerin

- Infinitive: *amaz*
- Present participle: *amanti*
- Past participle: *amaθu, amaθa*

Irregular 1st conjugation verb: *maθukaz* (to eat)

Most verbs in *-Vkaz* are conjugated the same way.

		Singular			Plural	
		First	Second	Third	First	Second
Indicative	Present	maθuqu	maθukas	maθuka	maθukamu	maθu
	Preterit	maθuke	maθukes	maθukau	maθukemu	maθu
	Future	maθukare	maθukaras	maθukara	maθukaramu	maθuk

		Singular			Plural	
		First	Second	Third	First	Second
Subjunctive	Present	maθuxim	maθuxis	maθuxi	maθuximu	maθ
	Preterit	maθuxerim	maθuxeris	maθuxeri	maθuxirimu	maθu

- Infinitive: *maθukaz*
- Present participle: *maθukanti*
- Past participle: *maθukaθu, maθukaθa*

Regular verbs: second conjugation, type A: *ligiz*, "to bind"

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	ligu	ligis	ligi	ligimu	ligiθi	ligun
	Preterit	lige	liges	ligau	ligemu	ligesθi	ligirun
	Future	ligire	ligiras	ligira	ligiramu	ligiraθi	ligiran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	ligam	ligas	liga	ligamu	ligaθi	ligan
	Preterit	ligerim	ligeris	ligeri	ligirimu	ligiriθi	ligerin

- Infinitive: *ligiz*
- Present participle: *liginti*
- Past participle: *ligiθu, ligiθa*

Regular verbs: second conjugation, type B: *sabiz*, "to know"

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
	Present	sabiyu	sabis	sabi	sabimu	sabiθi	sabiyun

Indicative	Preterit	sabe	sabes	sabau	sabemu	sabesθi	sabirun
	Future	sabire	sabiras	sabira	sabiramu	sabiraθi	sabiran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	sabiyam	sabiyas	sabiya	sabiyamu	sabiyaθi	sabiyun
	Preterit	saberim	saberis	saberi	sabirimu	sabiriθi	saberin

◀		▶
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- Infinitive: *sabiz*
- Present participle: *sabinti*
- Past participle: *sabuθu*, *sabuθa*

Irregular 2d. conjugation verb: *duxiz* ("to lead, to teach")

Most verbs in *-xiz* follow this pattern.

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	duqu	duxis	duxi	duximu	duxiθi	duqun
	Preterit	duxe	duxes	duxau	duxemu	duxesθi	duxirun
	Future	duxire	duxiras	duxira	duxiramu	duxiraθi	duxiran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	dukam	dukas	duka	dukamu	dukaθi	dukan
	Preterit	duxerim	duxeris	duxeri	duxirimu	duxiriθi	duxerin

◀		▶
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- Infinitive: *duxiz*
- Present participle: *duxinti*
- Past participle: *duxiθu*, *duxiθa*

Irregular 2d. conjugation verb: *faxiz* ("to make")

The verb *difaxiz*, "to unmake, mar, deface, bestow a curse on" is also conjugated this way. Most of the many compounds of this verb have *-fixiz*, and as such are regular IIb verbs.

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	faqiyu	faxis	faxi	faximu	faxiθi	faqiyun
	Preterit	fixe	fixes	fixau	fixemu	fixesθi	fixirun
	Future	faxire	faxiras	faxira	faxiramu	faxiraθi	faxiran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third

Subjunctive	Present	faxiyam	faxiyas	faxiya	faxiyamu	faxiyaθi	faxiyar
	Preterit	faxerim	faxeris	faxeri	faxirimu	faxirii	faxerin

◀		▶
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- Infinitive: *faxiz*
- Present participle: *faxinti*
- Past participle: *fatu*, *fata*

Irregular 2d. conjugation verb: *fuθiz*

Several other verbs follow this pattern, including *batiz* "beat, strike" and *qungriz* "resemble", as well as the compounds of *fuθiz* itself, such as *(si) difuθiz* "exhaust" and *qunfuθiz* "befuddle, botch, confuse, mess up".

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	fuθu	fuθuis	fuθui	fuθuimu	futuiθi	fuθun
	Preterit	fuθue	fuθues	fuθau	fuθuemu	fuθuesθi	fuθuirun
	Future	fuθire	fuθiras	fuθira	fuθiramu	fuθiraθi	fuθiran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	futam	futas	futa	futamu	futaθi	futan
	Preterit	futerim	futeris	futeri	futirimu	futiriθi	futerin

- Infinitive: *fuθiz*
- Present participle: *fuθuinti*
- Past participle: *futuθu*, *futuθa*

Irregular 2d. conjugation verb: *mutiz* ("to die")

Like *aθaz*, this is a suppletive verb. It represents two roots: Latin MORI "die", which became *MORIRE in Vulgar Latin; and the Punic roots *mut* / *muθ* and *maviθ* (**MUTh**), "to die" and "death".

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	muru	muris	muri	muzzimu	muzziθi	mur
	Preterit	mauθe	mauθes	mauθau	mauθemu	mauθesθi	mauθ
	Future	mutire	mutiras	mutira	mutiramu	mutiraθi	muti

◀		▶
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		Singular			Plural	
		First	Second	Third	First	Second
Subjunctive	Present	muzzam	muzzas	muzza	muzzamu	muzzaθi
	Preterit	muzzerim	muzzeris	muzzeri	muzzirimu	muzziriθi

◀		▶
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- Infinitive: *mutiz*
- Present participle: *muzzinti*
- Past participle: *muttu, mutta*

Irregular verb: *issiz* (to be)

This verb has different forms based on whether it is used as a lexical verb or as an auxiliary.

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	sunu, su	is	isti, i	sumu	isti	sun
	Preterit	fue	fuis	fui	fuiumu	fuisθi	fuirun
	Future	sire	siras	sira	siramu	siraθi	siran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	sim	sis	si	simu	siθi	sin
	Preterit	fussim	fussis	fussi	fussimu	fussiθi	fussirin

Irregular verb: *istaz* (to stand, to remain)

This verb sees some use as a copula, but not to the extent of Spanish *estar*.

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	istu	istas	ista	stamu	staθi	istan
	Preterit	stiθe	stiθes	stiθau	stiθimu	stisθi	stiθirun
	Future	stare	staras	stara	staramu	staraθi	staran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	istim	istis	isti	stimu	stiθi	istin
	Preterit	stasim	stasis	stasi	stasimu	stasiθi	stasirin

Infinitive: *istaz* Present participle: *stanti* Past participle: *staθu*

Irregular verb: *aviz* (to have)

This verb has different forms when used as an auxiliary and when used as a lexical verb

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	aviyu, he	avis, hes	avi, ha	avimu	aviθi	avin
	Preterit	avue	avues	avui	avuimu	avuisθi	avuirun

	Future	avire	aviras	avira	aviramu	aviraθi	aviran
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		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	avam	avas	ava	avamu	avaθi	avan
	Preterit	averim	averis	averi	avirimu	aviriθi	averin

- Infinitive: *aviz*
- Present participle: *avinti*
- Past participle: *aviθu*, *aviθα*

Irregular verb: *aθaz* ("to go")

This contains suppletive forms from several original verbs, including VADARE, IRE and *ALLARE.

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	vaθu	vaθas	vaθi	vaθimu	vadiθi	vaθan
	Preterit	aθe	aθes	aθau	aθamu	alasθi	aθarun
	Future	ire	iras	ira	iramu	iraθi	iran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	aθim	aθis	aθi	aθimu	aliθi	aθin
	Preterit	aθerim	aθeris	aθeri	aθirimu	aθiriθi	aθerin

- Infinitive: *aθaz*
- Present participle: *aθanti*
- Past participle: *vadiθu*, *vadiθα*

Irregular verb: *vuliz* ("to want, to want to, to be going to")

The verbs *mesvuliz*, "prefer", and *nivuliz* "to not want", are also conjugated according to this pattern.

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	vulu	viθis	vuθ	vuθimu	vuθi	vun, vuθun
	Preterit	vuθe	vuθes	vuθau	vuθamu	vuθasθi	vuθarun
	Future	viθe	viθas	viθα	viθamu	vilaθi	viθan

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	vim	vis	viya	vimu	viθi	vin
	Preterit	viθerim	viθeris	viθeri	viθirimu	viθiriθi	viθerin

- Infinitive: *vuliz*

- Present participle: *vulinti*
- Past participle: *vultu, vulta*

Irregular verb: *pudiz* ("to be able")

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Indicative	Present	puvu, pussu	pudis	pudi	pussamu	pudisθi	pussun
	Preterit	puve	puves	puvau	puvimu	puvisθi	puvirun
	Future	pudre	pudras	pudra	pudramu	pudraθi	pudran

		Singular			Plural		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
Subjunctive	Present	pussim	pussis	pussi	pussimu	pussiθi	pussin
	Preterit	pudrim	pudris	pudri	pudrimu	pudriθi	pudririn



- Infinitive: *pudiz*
- Present participle: *pudinti*

Syntax

Prepositions: combining forms and clitics

Supina diya maviθ.

A number of common prepositions have combining forms and clitics. Some also have altered forms when combined with the definite articles.

- ***a*** < AD "at, to, towards"
 - *ami, ati* "to me, to you"; *aθa, aya, alu* ("at the" + articles, masculine, feminine, plural.)
- ***anti*** < ANTE "before"
 - *antiθa, antiya, antilu* ("before the" + articles, masculine, feminine, plural.)
- ***atti*** < ? "until"
 - *attiθa, attiya, attilu* ("until the" + articles, masculine, feminine, plural.); *attiθa riturnu* "goodbye".
- ***di*** < DE "of, from"
 - *dimi, diti* "from me, from you"; *diθa, diya, dilu* ("from the" + articles, masculine, feminine, plural.)
- ***in*** "in, on"
 - *immi, inti, innilu, innila* "in me, in you, in him, in her"
- ***la*** "with a, belonging to a"
 - *La* is only used following possessed forms and cannot be used with

definite possessors. It is a clitic preposition in origin.

- **pur**: < PER, PRO* "for"
 - *purθa*, *purya*, *purlu* ("for the" + articles, masculine, feminine, plural.)
- **qunu** < CUM "with"
 - *miqun*, *tiqun*, *navisqun*, *vaisqun* "with me, with you, with us, with you (pl.)"; *quna*, *qunya*, *quna* ("with the" + articles, masculine, feminine, plural).
- **sin** < SINE "without"
 - *simmi*, *sinti* "without me, without you"

Other prepositions include:

- **dibaxu** < *DE BASSO "beneath, underneath"
- **dipusti** < *DE POST DE "after, following"
- **indri** < INTER "between, among"
- **quntra** CONTRA "against"
- **su** < SUB "under, beneath"
- **suθa** < SUPER ILLA "over, upon"

Note also these idioms:

- *a kapu di*, "ahead of"
- *a qulum* (*a/ya/u*), "at a dead end, done with" the noun following.
- *fazi a*, "towards, facing"
- *kaθru a* "across from"
- *prisqu a* "close to, almost as far as"
- *pur a*, "in order to"
- *purθi*, "for that reason, therefore, so"
- *qulu di*, "facing away from, behind, opposite"
- *quntra di*, "against, opposing"
- *quran di* or *qurandi*, "in front of"
- *siqun di*, "according to"
- *supina di*, "on penalty of"
- *tras di* or *tras a*, "behind, after"
- *usc a* or *uska*, "as far as"

These will take the clitics and combining forms of the simple prepositions they end with.

The noun phrase

Adjectives may follow or precede the nouns they modify. These positions are syntactically meaningful. The adjective second position is the default. Adjectives so placed are descriptive and specific. Adjectives preceding nouns are rhetorical or emphatic: *banu guinum biyanqu* "a good white wine".

Note also that Vandalic allows noun phrases in the possessed construction to substitute for derived adjectives: *Pisaθu sunu di tfarat ya ntinxun*: "I am burdened with glorious purpose"; rather than the derived adjective "glorious", Vandalic translates that as "glory" (*tfaraθ*, f.) "of purpose".

A similar construction places the abstract noun in the possessor spot: *rudintis ya menituθ inuziali*, "rodents of unusual size".

The verb phrase

In addition to the conjugated tenses, Vandalic verbs have a number of compound tenses.

Participles: compound tenses, passive, and emphatic constructions

A passive construction uses the past participle and *issiz*:

- *duqu* "I teach" > *duxiθu su* "I am taught". The full range of passive tenses and subjunctive forms is formed with the appropriate tenses of *issiz*.

A present progressive tense is likewise formed with the present participle:

- *duxinti su* "I am teaching"
- *duxinti fue* "I was teaching"
- *duxinti sire* "I will be teaching"

This construction is used much less frequently than in English.

Various past imperfect tenses is formed using *aviz* plus participles:

- *duxe* "I taught" > *he duxiθu* "I have taught";
- *avue duxiθu* "I had taught"
- *avire duxiθu* "I will have taught"

In constructions using *aviz* and a past participle, note that the participle agrees in gender with the direct object, if there is one:

- *a duzint ha duxiθa ya fiθa* /a du.ˈzint ʔa du.ˈʃi.ða ja ˈfi.ða/ - "the professor (m) has taught (f) the daughter (f)"

In earlier Vandalic, intransitive verbs were conjugated in the compound past tenses with *issiz* rather than *aviz*: *viniz* "to come"; ***sunu vinuθu* "I am come". This usage is archaic in current Vandalic and occurs only in a number of proverbs and fossil idioms.

Emphatic or superlative verbs

The present participle is also used idiomatically to create emphatic tenses in an etymological figure or polyptote. This is especially frequent with the future tense:

- *muzzinti mutire* - "I shall surely die"; literally "dying, I will die";
- *aθant' iras* - "You shall go"; literally "going, you will go."

The clitic queue

Iqu ilasma, digau "clitic".

Word order in Vandalic is never more fixed than among the clitic pronouns and adverbial particles of the verb. In indicative and subjunctive sentences, all clitics immediately precede the verb. In imperative sentences, direct and indirect object pronoun clitics follow the verb. The usual order is:

Uskam mi θu nu
dunau

ADVERBIAL PARTICLE - INDIRECT OBJECT - DIRECT OBJECT - NEGATIVE
PARTICLE - HEAD VERB

"He/she did not ever give it to me."

But, in imperative sentences, the object clitics follow the verb: *Duna mi θu*: "give it to me". "Adverbial particles" are words that modify verbs that are not derived from adjectives using the adverb suffix *-minti*. Adverbs in *-minti* are more freely relocatable and can appear after the verb, in the adverb position, or before the queue of clitic pronouns and particles. In fact, derived adverbs can appear between negative particles and the head verb when the intended meaning is to negate the adverb rather than the main verb:

...andraminti aθaz aduvi nuθu prim' aθau. "to boldly go where no one has gone

before."

...*andraminti nu aθaz*... "to boldly not go."

...*nu andraminti aθaz*... "to go, but not boldly".

Reflexive verbs

Reflexive verbs exist in Vandalic, but are not quite as prominent as they are in French or Portuguese. Here, they are less lexical fixtures and more in the nature of idioms, expressing that the self is the object as well as the subject of a verb. Reflexive verbs transform direct objects into prepositional phrases, usually with *a*. Most reflexive verbs also have forms expressing non-reflexive meanings:

Yuhanu fidi Mariya. "John trusts Mary."

Yuhanu si fidi a Mariya. "John relies on Mary."

As a direct object particle, the accusative reflexive pronoun's syntactical position is always determined by the clitic queue, meaning that the only thing that can stand between it and the head verb is a negative particle:

Yuhanu si nu fidi a Mariya. "John doesn't rely on Mary."

Qi Yuhanu si ni fida a Mariya. "John shouldn't rely on Mary."

Uses of the subjunctive mood

The uses of the Vandalic subjunctive can be divided into two classes: those introduced by the particle *qi* and those without. The particle *qi* substitutes for the relative marker *qu* in subjunctive clauses, but can appear independently without being part of a subordinate clause.

The subjunctive is called for in expressions of uncertainty or potentiality (*irrealis*). It also appears in polite requests (the ethic subjunctive). It is also grammatically obligatory in certain contexts regardless of actual mood or aspect.

Subjunctive verb phrases are negated with *ni* as opposed to indicative *nu*.

Qi clauses

The subjunctive is routinely used with expressions of desire, preference, or doubt:

Mesvulu qi ni guvirna in tal staθu. "I'd prefer for him/her not to drive in such a condition."

Vuθes qi faxirimu statiminti "You wanted us to do it right away."

Vulu qi sim uzdu in u jibal. "I wish I were a bear in the wilderness."

But, as noted, *qi* clauses can appear as main clauses. Expressions of wishes and the like call for it:

Qi giva mili anus! "May he/she live a thousand years!"

Qi muzzan al aristus! "Death to the aristocrats!"

Qi avas prupitx a rey. "May you enjoy the King's favor."

as do some expressions of surprise, shock, or pleasure:

Qi biθu si parul a mutu. "How beautiful is the word of the silent."

and in polite requests:

Qi mi ajuvis pir favuri? "Can you help me, please?"

Other expressions that call for the subjunctive

It is grammatically required in clauses introduced by words that suggest potentiality or uncertainty, such as *si*, "if":

Bamminti qiru si ami diga "ti amu". "I'd like it very much if he/she told me "I

love you."

Si saberim qi fussis vininti, turtam qugherim. "If I had known you were coming, I'd have baked a cake."

Some conventional expressions of wishes and desires omit *qi*:

Giva ha rey! "Long live the king!"

Because Vandalic never developed a specific conditional form, unlike some other Romance languages, it requires past subjunctives where others use conditionals. This preserves the Latin usage:

Biverim si ya fussi yaua. "I would drink if there were water." (Cf. Fr. *Je boirais si il y avait de l'eau*, but L. *Biberim si aqua ibi fuerit*.)

Latiterim si pudrim. "I would run away if I could."

Negation

In declarative sentences, negation is fairly simple. The particle *nu* is placed before an indicative verb to negate it. If the verb is in the subjunctive, that particle is *ni* instead. The clitic queue generally requires *nu* and *ni* to be placed immediately before the word being negated.

Negative imperative sentences require recasting or auxiliaries. This is achieved either by recasting the command as a polite request and using the subjunctive:

Qi ni fumis, pir favuri. "No smoking, please"

or the use of *nivuliz*, "do not want" as an auxiliary:

Nivuli zuniθaz. "Thou shalt not commit adultery".

For extra politeness, combine both:

Qi nivis zuniθaz, pir favuri. "Please don't commit adultery."

Uses of the emphatic pronouns

The emphatic pronouns have two chief uses:

1. They are used as the complements of prepositions that do not have cliticized forms: *a me* "to me", *anti tivi* "ahead of you".
2. They are used disjunctively, relating the following sentence to the person identified by the pronoun in some way; the most basic translation is "as far as ____ is concerned."

Me, pudu qu ixa si vidi bastanti bini duvi 'sta. "As far as I'm concerned, that thing looks well enough where it is."

The topic named by the emphatic pronoun in this construction does not need to appear in the following sentence:

Θui, qi aθi ya partiya diquntra aya tufiθ. "As far as he/she is concerned, the opposition party can go to hell."

Indefinite and specifying adjectives and pronouns

- *auqunu, auquna* "someone"
- *niunu, niuna* "nobody"
- *autru, autra* "another, someone else"
- *qiqunc* "anybody, everybody"
- *tal* "that kind of, one of them"

Note also the indefinite state treated under "Nouns", above.

The declarative sentence

Vandalic word order is relatively free apart from fixed position clitics. The syntactic fixed star is that subject nouns precede direct object nouns. SVO and SOV are both possible, although SOV is a mark of formal style and SVO is rising in frequency. VSO can occur when the verb is more important than either subject or object, and is the rule in questions.

Vandalic is a pro-drop language. Subject pronouns are always optional. When they appear it is always emphatic. The chief use of nominative personal pronouns is to be modified as adjectives:

Iu paura i pitxusu... "Poor pitiful me". *Iu paura i pitxusa...* (f.)

Copular sentences

In copular sentences, equating one thing with another or describing one noun in terms of another, the order of the elements is free:

- *Nuθu pixim isti baθina*
- *Baθina 'sti nuθu pixim'*

are equally valid translations of "A whale is no kind of fish." Where a noun and adjective are involved, the noun usually appears first:

- *Baθinas sun gduliθis*

"Whales are large", but the opposite is by no means impossible when the adjective is featured:

- *Gdulis sun fatus a Karulu Menu.*

"Great were the deeds of Charlemagne."

Interrogative sentences

Question words

Questions get asked in Vandalic by the use of question words, which will be pronouns or adjectives. *Qi* is the most basic of these, "who" or "what". It is not declined for gender or number, and can be used with third person verbs of either number:

- *Qi lassau a kanis?* "Who (sing.) let the dogs out?"
- *Qi lassirun a kanis?* "Who (pl.) let the dogs out?"

Other question words include:

- *kandu* "when"
- *qumu* "how"
- *aduvi* "where"
- *kantu* "how many, how much"
- *kazzi* "why"
- *purqi* "why, what for?"

Most of these can be used relatively or as conjunctions, except for *qi* itself; in indicative verb phrases, the relative counterpart of *qi* is *qu*. When used relatively, *aduvi* is usually shortened, depending on the environment, to *duvi*, *vi*, or even simply *v'*.

Tag questions and syntax

The other way a phrase can be tagged as a question is by placing the particle *au* (< AUT) at the head. This requires a syntactical transform: a subject noun cannot immediately follow *au*. A verb can, and an object can if the sentence verb contains a dropped subject pronoun. This encourages, but does not require, VSO

order.

- *Au rubau y' ubadiθ ya quruna?* "Did the slave steal the crown?"
- *Au ya quruna rubau?* "Did she/he steal the crown?"

are equally possible. But:

- ***Au y' ubadiθ rubau ya quruna?*
- ***Au ya quruna 'sti rubaθa?*

do not work; instead, the correct forms for the last sentence must be:

- *Au 'sti ya quruna rubaθa?* or
- *Au 'sti rubaθa ya quruna?* "Is the crown stolen?"

Conjunctions

Some frequent Vandalic conjunctions follow. Note that some, such as *va* and *si*, primarily govern clauses rather than items on a list.

- *affini*, "so that, in order to"
- *au*, "or"
- *danic* "while, until"
- *drinti* "during, while"
- *dripinti* "then, next"
- *dunqi* "therefore, so"
- *i*, "and"
- *ma* "but"
- *paruc* "but, however, nevertheless"
- *pasti* "after, next"
- *qindi* "since, because"
- *qusi* "like, as"
- *si* "if, whether". Usually introduces a clause in the subjunctive mood.
- *sidi* "but"
- *va*, "and, next, then". Joins clauses and sentences, not single words. Always appears first position in a sentence.
- *vi*, "or" (exclusive)

Note also these constructions:

- *i karni i fitiqi* "both meat and vegetables"
- *au karni au fitiqi* "either meat or vegetables" (or both)
- *au karni vi fitiqi* "either meat or vegetables" (choose one)

Subordinate clauses

Fixe ilasmam, qu fixau tuθ ya tir' a θuraz. "I started a joke, that started the whole world crying."

The large majority of relative clauses in Vandalic in the indicative mood will include the particle *qu*, "who, or what", indifferently. In the subjunctive mood, the marker *qi* takes its place. It can serve as a pronoun:

Iθa ya siθa, in qu size. "That is the chair in (which) I sat."
Qi sgari, paghi, supina di maviθ. "She/He who betrays, pays -- and pays with their life."

Sometimes, *qu* might be better translated as "someone" or "anyone". Note also that the main clause to which the *qu* clause is subordinate does not have to contain a verb:

A qu sgara nuθa pitaθ "No mercy for anyone who betrays."

Neither *qu* nor *qi* inflect for number, gender, or case. In some contexts its case or

antecedent can be somewhat obscure; in these cases it generally refers to the main clause as a statement. In these constructions they can mean little more than "and" or "so":

Fui ya sictaθ tal mala, qu prighirun u paulu aθ' iθulum xicru. "The drought was so bad that the people prayed to a false idol."
Turnbe in buqum neru tal prufundu, qu nu puve sfughiz. "I feel into a black hole so deep that I could not escape."

It can also be translated as "when" in some similar constructions:

Fue uchid in u prufundu, qu rinquntre tivrun a gdul. "I was alone in the deep, when I encountered a huge shark."

In English, the relative marker can often be omitted. ("That's the chair I sat in.") In Vandalic it is never omitted.

Vocabulary

See also:

- [Vandalic to English dictionary](#)
- [English to Vandalic dictionary](#)

About 70% of the Vandalic lexicon can still be traced directly back to the original Vulgar Latin. The marked reduction in contrasting vowel phonemes in the language's history, by contrast, has motivated some relexification.

Often, the homophones created by the mergers are simply tolerated: *θuris θuris* "more flowers". On occasion, they result in lexical mergers. The verbs DUCERE "lead" and DOCERE "teach" have enough in common that the concepts blur in the Vandalic. Similarly, USUALE "usual" has merged with *HODIALE "daily" to yield *uziali* "ordinary, everyday, normal, customary."

The deepest and most nativized level of non-Latin words in Vandalic is the Punic lexicon. Punic often supplies items lost due to semantic drift; when *fiθu*, *fiθα* stopped meaning "son, daughter" and became "boy, girl", the Punic words *banu*, *binaθ* (Punic **BN**, **BNTh**) stepped in to carry the load.

Greek (*tigani*, "pan" < *τηγάνι*; *pulimiyu* "police officer" < *πολέμιος*) and Arabic (*asadu*, "lion"; *madrasa*, "school") also made significant contributions to the lexicon. Unlike in Spanish or Portuguese, Arabic words are borrowed into Vandalic without the prefixed definite article *al*-.

Swadesh list

No.	English	
1	I	iu
2	you (singular)	tu
3	he	i
4	we	nu
5	you (plural)	vaiz
6	they	i
7	this	isi

8	that	iθu, iθa
9	here	ya
10	there	la
11	who	qi
12	what	ka
13	where	aduvi
14	when	kandu
15	how	qumu
16	not	nu
17	all	tuθu, tuθa
18	many	θuri
19	some	(indefinite case)
20	few	kalku
21	other	autru, autra
22	one	unu, una
23	two	du
24	three	tzi
25	four	katuz
26	five	xinqi
27	big	menu, mena / gdul, gduliθ
28	long	lungu, lunga
29	wide	stinsu, stinsa
30	thick	dinsu, dinsa
31	heavy	pisaθu, pisaθa
32	small	pikinu, pikina
33	short	brivi
34	narrow	biluqu, biluka
35	thin	raqiu, raqia
36	woman	ixiθ (f)
37	man (adult male)	ix
38	man (human being)	umu
39	child	fiθu, fiθa
40	wife	exa
41	husband	bahalu
42	mother	matxa

43	father	patxu
44	animal	bixia
45	fish	pixi
46	bird	auxiθu
47	dog	qani
48	louse	pipux
49	snake	nachax
50	worm	θuliθ (f)
51	tree	arvuri (f)
52	forest	buxi
53	stick	palu
54	fruit	frutu
55	seed	simini
56	leaf	faθu
57	root	radixi (f)
58	bark	qurtiz
59	flower	θuri
60	grass	gramini
61	rope	karda
62	skin	pili
63	meat	karni
64	blood	sangi
65	bone	assi
66	fat	gurdu, gurda
67	egg	avu
68	horn	karnu
69	tail	kauda
70	feather	θuma
71	hair	kapili
72	head	rax
73	ear	auriθ (f)
74	eye	aqulu
75	nose	nazu
76	mouth	buqu

77	tooth	dinti
78	tongue	lingua
79	finger nail	uniya
80	foot	pidi
81	leg	gambi (f)
82	knee	rudiθa
83	hand	iduma
84	wing	agaf
85	belly	utan
86	guts	aumats
87	neck	kaθi
88	back	dazzu
89	breast	mamila
90	heart	kardi
91	liver	figaθu
92	drink	biviz
93	eat	maθukaz
94	bite	mardiz
95	suck	asugaz
96	spit	xipudaz
97	vomit	vamiz
98	blow	xufaz
99	breathe	sfiraz
100	laugh	tsuchaz
101	see	spitaz
102	hear	audiz
103	know	sabiz
104	think	putaz
105	smell	sintaz
106	fear	timiz
107	sleep	dumiz
108	live	giviz
109	die	mutiz
110	kill	ucsidiz
111	fight	mabukaz

112	hunt	yagaz
113	hit	tudiz
114	cut	tomaz
115	split	xindiz
116	stab	qulpaz
117	scratch	xirtaz
118	dig	fussaz
119	swim	nadaz
120	fly	vulaz
121	walk	andaz
122	come	viniz
123	lie	lanuaz
124	sit	sidiz
125	stand	istaz
126	turn	veθiz
127	fall	kadaz
128	give	dunaz
129	hold	tiniz
130	squeeze	primiz
131	rub	marikaz
132	wash	lavaz
133	wipe	baleaz
134	pull	trachaz
135	push	primiz
136	throw	kastaz
137	tie	ligaz
138	sew	suyaz
139	count	taθaz
140	say	digaz
141	sing	kantaz
142	play	ludiz
143	float	buyaz
144	flow	afluiz
145	freeze	ghilaz

146	swell	sulkaz
147	sun	sul
148	moon	luna
149	star	stiθa
150	water	yaua
151	rain	θuvia
152	river	θumini
153	lake	lau
154	sea	imi (f)
155	salt	sal
156	stone	piθra
157	sand	arina
158	dust	apuru
159	earth	tira
160	cloud	nibilu
161	fog	nibilu
162	sky	xilu
163	wind	vintu
164	snow	nivi (f)
165	ice	ghilu
166	smoke	fumu
167	fire	fau
168	ash	apuru
169	burn	brindaz
170	road	via
171	mountain	munti
172	red	russu, russa
173	green	viridi
174	yellow	zzaunu, zzauna
175	white	biyanqu, biyanka
176	black	neru, nera
177	night	nutti
178	day	ziya
179	year	anu
180	warm	kaliθu, kaliθa

181	cold	friθu, friθa
182	full	θinu, θina
183	new	nau, naua
184	old	viglu, vigla
185	good	banu, bana
186	bad	malu, mala
187	rotten	fitiθu, fitiθa
188	dirty	suxu, suxa
189	straight	piriglu, pirigla
190	round	rundu, runda
191	sharp	chadu, chada
192	dull	kamaθu, kamaθa
193	smooth	glistu, glista
194	wet	mulaθu, mulaθa
195	dry	siqu, sika
196	correct	pir razunu
197	near	pruxanu, pruxana
198	far	luntanu, luntana
199	right	distru, distra
200	left	livu, liva
201	at	a
202	in	in
203	with	qunu
204	and	i
205	if	si
206	because	pirqi
207	name	xim

Phrases

English	Vandalic
Vandalic	<i>Vandalus</i> (people) or <i>Vandala</i> (language)
English	<i>Inglisus</i> (people) or <i>Inglisa</i> (language)
Yes	<i>Si</i>
No	<i>Nu</i>
Hello!	<i>Saluθu</i> / <i>Bana ziya</i>
Good evening!	<i>Bana sira</i>

Good night!	<i>Bana nutti</i>
Goodbye!	<i>Attiθα riturnu</i>
Please/if you please	<i>Pir favuri</i>
Thank you	<i>Gratxi</i>
You are welcome	<i>Nuθu 'sti</i>
I am sorry	<i>Pirdunu prighu</i>
What is your name?	<i>Qi 'sti a xim tu? / Qumu t' apiθas?</i> (formal)
My name is...	<i>Xim a mi 'sti.... / M'apiθu.... (formal)</i>
I do not understand.	<i>Nu kapizzu</i>
Yes, I understand.	<i>Si, kapizzu</i>
I agree	<i>Aqurdu</i>
Help!	<i>Aθ' ajuvantil</i>
Can you help me, please?	<i>Qi mi ajuvis pir favuri?</i>
Where are the toilets?	<i>Duvi 'sti u vispas?</i>
Do you speak English?	<i>Au parulis y' Inglisa?</i>
I do not speak Vandalic.	<i>Vandala nu parulu.</i>
I do not know.	<i>Nu sabiyu</i>
I know.	<i>Sabiyu</i>
Left / right	<i>Sistru / Distru</i>
I am thirsty.	<i>Istu siqu (m) Istu sika (f)</i>
I am hungry.	<i>Mi famiyu</i>
How's it going?	<i>Qumu vaθi?</i>
I am fine.	<i>Vaθi bamminti.</i>
(How) may I help you?	<i>Au pudrim ti ajuvaz?</i>
She always closes the window before she dines.	<i>(θα) simpri sfirma ya fnistra anti qu xina.</i>
I need a doctor.	<i>Spiunu sunu (m) Spiuna sunu (f)</i>
Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.	<i>Muxanas viridis sin quluri quliraminti dumiyun.</i>
My hovercraft is full of eels.	<i>Ya hidruvulanti mia 'sti θina diy' anguiθas.</i>
My duck does not want to eat you.	<i>Y' annia mia nivuθ ti maθukaz.</i>
I am the king of the chickens.	<i>Sunu rey a gaθinas.</i>
My husband's bed is full of black sand. Why?	<i>Litx a bahalu miu 'sti θinu di arina nera. Purqi?</i>
I shall ask these peasants who are coming towards us, if the road by which they have come is bad.	<i>Qi θidam a razzalis qu viniyun fazi a nuvi, si a kaminu duvi passirun isti malu.</i>
Go and tell your master that we have been charged by God with a sacred quest.	<i>Aθα tu i digi al tu mestru qu pisaθus sunu pir llu aθα buxqiθα qudixa.</i>

Numbers

Cardinal

- Zero: *nuθu, zifri, ziru*
- 1-10: *unu, du, txi, katuz, xinqi, sixi, xibθi, attu, navi, dizi.*
- 11-20: *unθi, duθi, txisi, katuxi, xinxi, sisθi, sitθi, atxi, natxi, vinti*
- 20 - 100: *vinti, txinti, kazzanti, xinkanti, sistanti, sittanti, attanti, navanti,*

xintu

- 1000: *mili*
- 10,000: *miri*
- 100,000: *dixmiri*
- 1,000,000: *miθun*

Syntax: 32 - *txinti du*; 99 - *navanti navi*; 254 - *du xintu xinkanti katuz*; 2015 - *du mili xinxi Unu* is a II-I adjective; the rest are indeclinable.

Ordinal

These are all II-I adjectives:

- 1-10: *primizzu, sigundu, txiθu, kattu, xintu, sistu, xibθimu, attivu, nanimu, diximu*.
- 11-20:: *unθimu, duθimu, txisimu, katuximu, xinxiimu, sisθimu, sitθimu, atximu, natximu, vintimu*

Higher than these, you either add *-mu/-ma* to the ending, or use the corresponding form: 2001st - *du mili primizzu*; 2015th - *du mili xinxiimu*.

Multiplicative

- *Unu viθ, du viθ, txi viθ* &c. - "once, twice, thrice" and so forth.
- *Unu θitx* (also *uchid*), *du θitx, txi θitx* &c. - "single, double, triple" and so forth.

Note also the expressions *uchid viθ* "only once" and *uchid θitx* "unique". *Unu* is "one", but *uchid* always means "only one". *Simfitx* also occurs, but means "uncomplicated".

Calendars

Months

Zzaniru, Fiveru, Matxi, Aprili, Meyi, Zzuni, Tmuzi, Austi, Sittimri, Attuvri, Navimri, Saθurni.

Zzaniru, Fiveru and *Tmuzi* are invariantly masculine. *Aprili* and *Meyi* are invariably feminine. The rest of the months can be either masculine or feminine, and are usually masculine.

Calendar dates are given using ordinal numbers. *Katt a Tmuzi* - "Fourth of July". *Vint' i attim y' Attuvri* - "Twenty-eighth of October."

- *minuθu* - "minute"
- *ura* - "hour"
- *ziya* - "day"
- *simana* - "week"
- *mizi* (m), *kamar a sul* (f) - "month"
- *anu* - "year"

Mizi is traditionally used for a lunar month, from one new moon to another. Note *numizi* "new moon" and *idumizi* "full moon". The purely solar months are *kamar a sul*, the "rooms of the sun", and *kamara* is used as the ordinary word for a calendar month.

Weekdays

Luniya, Matxiya, Mirquriya, Zzuviya, Jumuha, Xabaθ, Duminka

Expressions of time

The ordinal numbers are used as feminine nouns for calendar dates, except for the first, which is always *kalenna*; *xint a Navimri* "the fifth of November", but *kalenn ya Meyi* "the first of May".

Clock time is a cardinal number in possessed state *al urluzzu* "of the clock": *xibθ al urluzzu*, "seven o'clock". *Katuz al urluzzu i xinxi*: "Four fifteen". *Duθ al urluzzu i kazzanti du* "Twelve forty-two". These can be *matini*, "A.M." before "noon", *mizziya*, or *visprini*, "P.M.", until "midnight", *miθanutti*.

Zodiac signs

Ariθi, *Tauru*, *Zzimiθus*, *Kancri*, *Asadu*, *Biθuli*, *Maznimis*, *Squrpiya*, *Sazziter*,
Kapriqurnu, *Fiθ ya Mema*, *Pixis*

Example text

John 3:16

Pirqi llu a mundu tantu amau, q'si a Banu su dunau, al unighiniθu, affini si qiqunc
criθinti innilu ni halaqira nuskam, me avira ulam ya viθa.

/piɿ.ki i.lu a mun.du tan.tu a.mau, ksi a ba.nu su du.nau al u.ni.ɣi.ni.θu, a.fi.ni.si
ki.kuŋk ksi.ðin.ti i.ni.lu ni ʔa.la.ki.ɣa nus.kam, me: a.vi.ɣa u.lam ja vi.ða/

The Lord's Prayer

Patxu nastru, qi 's in a xilu,
si santifikaθu tu xim;
viniya tu renu,
si fata vuluntaθ tua
suθa tira aqusi in a xilu.

A nuvi duna ha pani nastru uziali
i a nuvi pirduna amartiyas nastras
aqusi pirdunamu 'θus amartinti quntra di nuvi.
I nivuli a nu duxiz in ya tintaxun
sidi livera nu z'a malu.

Qindi Tus istu a Renu, i ya Pudistaθ, i ya Tfaraθ in ulam, amin.

/ˈpa.tʃu nas.tɬu, ki sin a ˈʃi.lu
si san.ti.fiˈka.ðu tu ʃim
viˈni.ɣa tu ˈɣeːnu
si fa.ta vuˈlun.taθ ˈtu.a
ˈsu.θa ˈti.ɣa aˈku.si in a ˈʃi.lu

a. ˈnu.vi ˈdu.na ʔa ˈpa.ni ˈnas.tɬu u.zi.ˈal.i
i a ˈnu.vi piɿˈdu.na ʔam.arˈti.jas ˈnas.tɬas
aˈku.si piɿ.duˈna.mu θus am.arˈtinˈti ˈkun.tɬa di ˈnu.vi
i niˈvuˈi ja nu ˈdu.ʃiz i ja tin.taˈʃun
ˈsi.di liˈve.ɣa nuz a ˈma.lu

ˈkin.di tus ˈis.tu a ˈɣeː.na i a pu.disˈtaθ i ja tfaˈɣaθ in uˈlam aˈmin/

Psalm 23

Adunu pasturi miu;
:nuskam mankare.

Mi faxi a zzaqiz in kampus viridis;
:mi duxi prisqu a yauas di ripuzu.

Rifaxi nifex mia;
:mi duxi pir kamin a zzustiθ, qusi a tu xim.

Sidi si aθerim inna vaθ ya maviθ, nu timare;

:qind' is tu miqunu; mi qunsulun i bastuni i baqulu tus.

Pusis misa fazi a mi quran di nimiquis mius;

:sparzzis a rax miu qun' uliya; a puqalu miu trabuqa.

I bontaθ i pitaθ mi seqiran pir ziyas tuθas ya viθa mia,

:i stiθire in ya bet al Adunu in ulam.

Babel Text (Gen. 11:1-9)

Avui tuθa tir ya lingua uchid i parulu issu. I vinau, qu latiterun diθ' urinti, invinirun latxum in ya tir a Xinar, i ya beθ si stiθirun. I si dixirun, ix al autru, 'viniθu qi faxiyamu latunas, qi qughamu 'θus pir a fau." I si dixirun, 'viniθu, qi qunstruamu turim, a qi sa pisgaθ a xilu atinga, qi nu faxiyamu xim, nivi simu spirsiθus suθa tira. I avuirun latunas pir a piθras, i chamir pir a qimintu.

Me vinau Adunu, pur a viziz al eru i ya turi qu si qunstruirun ul ixis. I dixi Adunu, 'iqu uchid u paulu, i uchid a tuθus a lingua. Qu issu biraxan, qu parulan lingua uchid, i qi nunka nuθu a θuru si dinigaθu qi muxanerin a faxiz. Dixindamu pur a qi sas linguas qunfutamu, pirqi ni si kapizzerin a su parulu.' Qu Adunu spirsau θus suθa ya tira, I si jistirun a qunstruiz al eru. Iqu ya razun, qu xim su isti 'Babil', qindi ya qunfutuθas fuirun tuθas u linguas diya tira, i di ya Adunu θus spirsau al autris rijunis.

International Declaration of Human Rights

Rax I:

Ixis tuθus ghiniθus sun livris i igalis in ya denitaθ va zzuris xivilis, qu nduθus sun diya razun i qunuxintxa; i 'sti bizunu pur θuru, qu si qumpurtaz aθa fraxunidaθ ix al autru.

- /'i.jis 'tu.ðus yi. 'ni.ðus sun 'liu.ɛis i i. 'ga.lis in ja 'de:.ni.taθ va 'ʒu.ɛis ji.'vi.liis, ku ŋdu.θus sun 'di.ja ɛa.'zun i ku.nu.jin.tʃa i 'sti bi.'zu.nu puɛ θu.ɛu, ku si ku. 'm̥puɛ.taʒ a.θa fɛa.'tʃu.ni, daθ iʃ al 'aʊ.tɛu./

The North Wind and the Sun

Vint a Sittintxiunali i a Sul disputun di kali a du qi sun a mes farti, qunu, dripinti, pasau vaghantim in amfi a birnuzu. Si qunsfirun, qi iθi qi si a primizzu qi qugi a vaghanti a difixunaz a birnuzu su, sira a mes farti.

Birixtau Vint a Sittintxiunali a xufaz qunu mena furia: sidi θi sulaminti xufanti qugi q'a vaghanti a su birnuzu mes pruxanu tiniz; kandu jistau Vint a Sittintxiunali a xufaz.

A Sul briθau qunu tuθa sa tfaraθ, i statiminti birnuz a vaghanti fui difixunaθu. Si tal qunuxun qi fui Sul a mes farti.

Prayer of St. Francis

O Sinyuri, qi faxis mi nstrumint ya paxi tua.

V'isti udiyu, qi purtim amuri,
v'isti ufinsa, pirdunu,
v'isti partinza, uchidaθ,
v'isti dubiyu, fidi,
v'isti iruri, virtaθ,
v'isti dispirtaθ, ispirantxa,
v'isti tinivri, luxi
v'isti txistaθ, gaudi.

Xil a Mestru, qi dunis ami:
ni sim qunsulaθu, sivi qi qunsulim,

ni sim kapistu, sivi qi kapizzam,
ni sim amaθu, sivi qi amim.

Qindi pir dunanti, rixivimu;
pir pirdunanti, pirdunaθus sumu;
pir maviθ ghiniθu sumu in ulam ya viθa.

Gisela's speech to Rollo

Ni mportanti kadunqi dixi a patxu miu, neam bixia issa spuzire. Sunu prinxipiss a sangu, ni zunit a vinditaz. Mesvulu qi sim vivaminti qumbrulaθa, qu'a duraz a causa 'ssa di manum su mpuniz suθa mi. Θui, isti paganum suxu. Purθi, nifex avi nuθu. Isti piθur diθa bixias di kampu. Mesvulu a dunaz ya biθuli iya virtuθ mias al kanim θus vili k'al pitx issa ha karni kaliθu. Θui, mi ripunya. Θui, mi qugi prisqu a vumitaz.^[1]

Tarot cards

The Tarot game (*taruqu*), a trick taking game resembling bridge or hearts, is widely played in Vandalic speaking areas. The cards themselves are usually French or Italian, but the original figures from Marseilles (*taruc ya Massiθ*) are used. They have traditional names in Vandalic:

- U FAΘU
- 1. A MUNTIMBANQU
- 2. YA PAPISSA
- 3. YA MPIRATRIΘ
- 4. U IMPRADURI
- 5. A PAPA
- 6. AL AMANTI
- 7. A KARU
- 8. ZZUSTIΘ
- 9. AL IRMITU
- 10. RAT YA BURTUNA
- 11. 8ARTIZZA
- 12. SUPINDIΘUM
- 13. (MAFIΘ)
- 14. TIMPRINTXA
- 15. A ZZAULU
- 16. TUR AL ILU
- 17. U STIΘAS
- 18. YA LUNA
- 19. A SUL
- 20. YA SUBITXA
- 21. A MUNDU

Notes

- ↑ "Afrae aures de correptione vocalium vel productione non iudicant". *De doctrina christiana*, Lib.IV, C.10
- ↑ A note on transcriptions:
 - Vulgar Latin words are indicated in SMALL CAPITALS
 - Punic words are indicated in **BOLD CAPITALS** with occasional small letters, according to the following transliteration scheme from the Phoenician alphabet:

- • A
-



Transliteration table of the Phoenician alphabet used for Punic.

'alep

- **B** - bet
- **G** - giml
- **D** - dalet
- **H** - he
- **U** or **V** - waw
- **Z** - zayin
- **Ch** - het
- **T** - tet
- **I** or **Y** - yod
- **K** - kap
- **L** - lamed
- **M** - mem
- **N** - nun
- **S** - samek
- **O** - `ayin
- **P** - pe
- **Tz** - tzade
- **Q** - qop
- **R** - resh
- **Sh** - shin
- **Th** - taw

Note also that unattested but reconstructed forms are marked with *:

*ALLARE. Impossible or ungrammatical forms are marked with **.

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